

Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 L-03 TRSE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 VO-03 INSE-00

H-02 JUSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 SIL-01 LAB-06 RSR-01 /086 W
----- 078245

R 281937 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6699

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 4687

EO 11652 : GDS

TAGS: PBOR, MX

SUBJ: ALLEGED "BRANDING" OF MEXICANS IN U. S.

1. FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA CALLED ME TUESDAY NIGHT TO SAY PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA WAS QUITE AGITATED ABOUT REPORTS WHICH MEXICAN JOURNALISTS WERE CIRCULATING TO EFFECT THAT MEXICAN CITIZENS WHO WERE BEING DEPORTED FROM UNITED STATES WERE BEING "BRANDED" ESPECIALLY IN LOS ANGELES AND EL CENTRO. RABASA SAID HE REALIZED THIS WAS PROBABLY REFERENCE TO USE OF CERTAIN INKS AT THESE POINTS BUT STRESSED THAT HIS PRESIDENT WAS DISTURBED AND SO WOULD APPRECIATE MY GIVING HIM PERSONALLY A REPORT. ACCORDINGLY I INFORMED HIM WEDNESDAY THAT THE MISUNDERSTANDING WAS APPARENTLY CREATED BY THE FACT THAT SUCH LARGE NUMBERS OF MEXICANS HAD BEEN MILLING AROUND THESE POINTS THAT A SIMPLE STAMP ON THE PALM HAD BEEN USED INDICATING THAT AN INDIVIDUAL HAD BEEN PROCESSED. HOWEVER I SAID I HAD BEEN TOLD THIS PROBLEM HAD DISAPPEARED AND THE PRACTICE HAD BEEN TERMINATED.

2. RABASA SAID HE APPRECIATED OUR PROMPT REPLY WHICH HE TELEPHONED TO THE PRESIDENT AT ONCE. HE SAID HE REALIZED THERE WAS NOTHING SINISTER IN THIS AS SUCH PRACTICES HAD BEEN USED IN MANY CONTEXTS INCLUDING DURING THE 1968
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OLYMPIC GAMES HERE. HOWEVER HE SAID THIS WAS A PSYCHOLOGICAL
ISSUE WHICH LENT ITSELF TO EXPLOITATION BY U. S. OR MEXICAN
JOURNALISTS WHO WISHED TO CAUSE TROUBLE. THEREFORE HE
BEGGED US NOT TO USE THIS PRACTICE AGAIN. I SAID I
WOULD PASS ON HIS REQUEST TO AVOID THIS PARTICULAR
DEVICE IN THE FUTURE.
MCBRIDE

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: ALLEGED "BRANDING" OF MEXICANS IN U. S.
TAGS: BPOR, MX
To: ARA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005